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REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed on May 5, 2005. In the Office Action claims 1-22 were pending of which claims 1-22 were rejected.

The Office Action reports that claims 1-5, 8-10, and 12-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,953,541 to King (hereinafter King).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a method of providing selected text into a computer, the method comprising the steps of: (a) having the computer select a character in an alphabetical range; (b) having the computer select a word as a function of the selected character, the selected word having a character sequence; (c) presenting the word to the user; (d) receiving an indication from the user pertaining to the selected character; and (e) adjusting the range of characters or retaining the selected character based on the user's indication. [emphasis added]

The amendments to claim 1 at least clarifies that the method includes adjusting the character range (from which another character is to be selected when the user's intended character does not match the computer-selected character) or retaining the selected character (when there is a match) based on the user's indication.

It is respectfully submitted that King does not teach or suggest all the features of claim 1. King discloses a system for disambiguating ambiguous and unambiguous input text input from a user. Thus, in the King system, a user inputs text using a plurality of keys, each key representing more than one letter and/or digit. For example, FIG. 5b of King (referenced in the Office Action) indicates that one key labeled "ABC" can indicate at least "A", "B", "C"; another key labeled "DEF" can indicate at least "D", "E", or "F", and so on. The King system is also adapted for disambiguating unambiguous text input at least partly based on which part of the key, (e.g. left, right, or center) is pressured

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by the user. For example, King provides the following in part, (also referenced in the Office Action):

The word vocabulary module has interpreted the ABC GHI DEF keystroke sequence as the words "age" 551, "aid" 512, and "bid" 513, and placed these interpretations in the selection list 76...The unambiguous spelling method has interpreted the keystroke using the direct-pointing specification method, and has placed the interpretation "bhe" 516 in the unambiguous spelling display region 72. [Col. 27, lines 11-22]

Thus, it is submitted that King does not teach or suggest at least the feature of adjusting the range of characters or retaining the selected character based on the user's indication as recited in claim 1. Rather, in King, it is believed that the user is required to enter an entire sequence of inputs using keys each having a fixed range of characters such as "ABC". The system disambiguates the sequence by generating a list of possible words or characters sequences intended by the user. In the example above discussed, some possibilities include words such as "aid" or "bid". The user then selects among the list of possibilities. [See Col. 27, lines 29-31]

In contrast, in the present inventions, the user does not enter a sequence of inputs for disambiguation as with King. Instead, the present inventions include letter-by-letter embodiments of entering text. The computer selects a character in an alphabetical range, and then selects a word for display to the user based on the selected character. Typically, when entering a new word, initially the computer-selected character is the first letter of the computer-selected word. For example, in the present specification, the initially selected character is "s" and the initially selected word is "said". [See Specification, page 16, line 25]

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The user makes an indication in response to the computer-selected character. Thus, if the user's intended word is "cat", the user indicates whether the "s" should be retained or not (i.e. matches or does not match the "c" in "cat"). Since there is no match, the user indicates whether the intended character or "c" precedes or succeeds the selected character. The present inventions then includes adjusting the alphabetical range or retaining the character based on the user's indication as recited in claim 1. In many embodiments, when a character is retained, the method advances to the next character in the character sequence of the selected word as recited in claim 3. In other embodiments, the user indicates whether the user's desired character is preceding or succeeds the user's intended character and adjusting the character range to be approximately bounded by the selected character as recited in claim 3. In this way, the alphabetic range can be interactively reduced so that the selected character is the same as the desired character of the user's desired word.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over the cited art. Claims 2-11 depend on claim 1 and are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-11 are respectfully requested. Claims 12-17 have been cancelled. Claims 23-24 are new and depend on claim 1. It is believed that claims 23-24 merely clarify the present inventions and include no new matter. Claims 23-24 are, therefore, presented for favorable action.

Claim 18 has been amended to recite a computing device comprising an input device, an output device, memory storing a lexicon, a processor accessing the memory, and a module including instructions executable by the processor to perform the steps of selecting a character in a range of characters arranged in alphabetical order, selecting a word from the lexicon as a function of the selected character, the word having a character sequence, presenting the word to the user through the output

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device, and receiving an indication from the user through the input device pertaining to the selected character to indicate whether the selected character matches or fails to match a user-desired character. [emphasis added]

Remarks relating to claim 1 are herein incorporated by reference. Claim 18 clarifies that the user indication pertaining to the selected character indicates whether the selected character matches or fails to match the user-desired character. It is believed that this feature is not taught or suggested by the King reference. As described above, the user enters a sequence using keys that each indicate more than one character or digit. The King system generates a list of possible sequence from which the user selects. In contrast, the present inventions includes a letter-by-letter reaction from the user to enter text rather than a word by word (or at least sequence by sequence) entering of text as disclosed in King.

In light of the foregoing, it is believed that claim 18 is patentable over the cited art. Claims 19-22 depend on claim 18 and are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 18-22 are respectfully requested.

The Office Action next reports that claims 6, 7 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over King as applied to claims 3 and 10 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,005,495 to Connolly (hereinafter Connolly). As discussed above, claims 6, 7, and 11 depend on claim 1, which has been presently amended. Nevertheless, Connolly discloses a method and system for intelligent text entry on a numeric keypad. It is believed the user selects a key on a keypad where the key (similar to King) can indicate more than one character. The system of Connolly then predicts which character is intended by the user. The user then confirms or rejects the predicted character until the predicted character is confirmed.

It is submitted that Connolly also does not teach or suggest

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all the features of claim 1 at least because Connolly does not include adjusting the character range or retaining a character based on the user's indication as recited in claim 1. In Connolly, the range of characters is also fixed with the keys of the keyboard. In contrast, in the present inventions, the character range from which a character is selected is intended to adjust with each interaction until the selected character matches the corresponding character of the user's desired word.

In light of the foregoing, it is believed that claim 1 is patentable over the cited combination. Claims 6, 7, and 11 depend on claim 1 and thus are believed to be patentable at least based on the believed patentability of independent claim 1.

Claims 27-31 are new and are believed to introduce no new matter. Claim 27 recites a computer readable medium including computer-executable instructions to perform the steps of: (a) selecting a character in an alphabetical range; (b) selecting a word based on the selected character; (c) rendering the selected word, the word having a character sequence; (b) receiving an indication from a user interface pertaining to the computer-selected character; (e) adjusting the range of characters or retaining the selected character based on the user's indication. [emphasis added]

Claim 27 recites a computer readable medium and is similar to the method of claim 1. Thus, remarks relating to claim 1 as well as the above discussion of Connolly are herein incorporated by reference. In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 27 is patentable over the cited art. New claims 28-31 depend on claim 27 and are believed to be separately patentable. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 27-31 are respectfully requested.

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A petition for an extension of time is hereby requested. A charge authorization for the amount of \$270.00 is included herewith for the extension fee and the extra claim fee.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By:


Linda P. Ji, Reg. No. 44,029
Suite 1400 - International Centre
900 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

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